

[6 March, 2007]

RAJYA SABHA

Violation of Flight Time Duty Limitation regulations by pilots in Indian

731. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that pilots of the State-owned domestic carrier Indian have allegedly violated Flight Time Duty Limitation regulations;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it will hamper the security of passengers; and
- (d) the steps Government are taking so that in future this will not happen?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) During a surprise check carried out by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) in January, 2007, it was observed that seven pilots of Indian Airlines Limited had exceeded Flight Time Duty Limitation (FDTL). The pilots were off rostered, warned and penalty imposed.

(c) FDTL regulations are aimed at ensuring that stress and fatigue on pilots are consistent with the safety requirements of air operations.

(d) Instructions have been issued to all concerned to strictly adhere to a number of corrective measures suggested to avoid recurrence of such incidents.

Security lapse at Mumbai Airport

732. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government are aware about the poor security arrangements at the country's airport these days;
- (b) if so, whether it is a fact that an air passenger carried a revolver and live cartridges in his baggage from Mumbai to Dubai without any security screening; and
- (c) if so, the action taken/being taken against the defaulters and arrangements to be made to tighten security in future?